

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



re Patent Application of

Steven C. Anderson et al.

Application No.: 10/661,155

Filed: September 12, 2003

For: SUTURE TRIMMER

) Group Art Unit: Unassigned

) Examiner: Unassigned

) Confirmation No.: Unassigned

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

**MAIL STOP IDS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

- No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.
- The fee of \$180.00 (1806) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.
- A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.
- A statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and the fee of \$180.00 (1806) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) are also enclosed.
- Charge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.
- A check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.

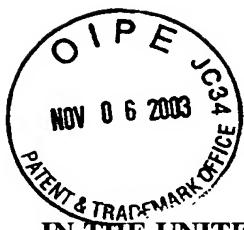
The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: November 6, 2003  
By: David R. Heckadon  
David R. Heckadon  
Registration No. 50,184

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Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 033297-140

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Steven C. Anderson et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application No.: 10/661,155 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
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**FIRST**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**MAIL STOP IDS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

All of the listed documents were previously made of record in prior Application Serial Nos. 10/004,817, filed December 10, 2001; 10/027,681, filed December 21, 2001; and 10/324,730, filed December 19, 2002, upon which Applicants rely for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the listed documents, except those documents which were previously made of record in the prior application, is enclosed.

**U.S. Patent Documents**

3,625,556	Stromberg	12/07/1971
3,752,516	Mumma	08/14/1973
4,602,635	Mulhollan	07/29/1986
4,641,652	Hatterer	02/10/1987
4,957,498	Caspari et al.	09/18/1990
4,961,741	Hayhurst	10/09/1990
5,133,723	Li	07/28/1992
5,176,691	Pierce	01/05/1993

Information Disclosure Statement  
Application No. 10/661,155  
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Page 2

5,242,459	Buelna	09/07/1993
5,269,791	Mayzels et al.	12/14/1993
5,292,327	Dodd et al.	03/08/1994
5,342,459	Klemp et al.	08/30/1994
5,403,330	Tuason	04/04/1995
5,405,351	Kinet	04/11/1995
5,417,699	Klein et al.	05/23/1995
5,423,837	Mericle et al.	06/13/1995
5,520,702	Sauer et al.	05/28/1996
5,527,322	Klein et al.	06/18/1996
5,549,618	Fleenor et al.	08/27/1996
5,643,289	Sauer et al.	07/01/1997
5,746,752	Burkhart	05/05/1998
5,797,929	Andreas et al.	08/25/1998
5,860,993	Thompson	01/19/1999
5,879,371	Gardiner et al.	04/04/2000
6,045,570	Epstein	04/04/2000
6,077,279	Kontos	06/20/2000
6,132,439	Kontos	10/17/2000
6,171,317	Jackson et al.	01/09/2001
6,254,620	Koh	07/03/2001
2002/0123758	Bachman	09/05/2002
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Foreign Patent Documents

9112301	DE	01/09/1992
9214580	DE	04/14/1994
94/08515	PCT	04/28/1994
00/69342	PCT	05/15/2000
02/15795	PCT	08/27/2001

Non Patent Literature Documents

PCT/US02/39151 International Search Report

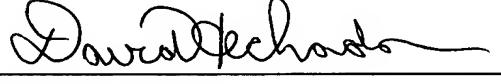
The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: November 6, 2003

By:   
David R. Heckadon  
Registration No. 50,184

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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO &amp; 1449B/PTO


**FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

ATTORNEY'S DKT No. 033297-140	APPLICATION NO. 10/661,155
APPLICANT Steven C. Anderson et al.	
FILING DATE September 12, 2003	GROUP Unassigned

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	3,625,556		Stromberg	12/07/1971
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	5,879,371		Gardiner et al.	04/04/2000
	6,045,570		Epstein	04/04/2000
	6,077,279		Kontos	06/20/2000
	6,132,439		Kontos	10/17/2000
	6,171,317		Jackson et al.	01/09/2001
	6,254,620		Koh	07/03/2001
	2002/0123758		Bachman	09/05/2002
	2002/0087178		Nobles	07/04/2002

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation Yes      No
	9112301		DE	01/09/1992	X
	9214580		DE	04/14/1994	X
	94/08515		PCT	04/28/1994	
	00/69342		PCT	05/15/2000	
	02/15795		PCT	08/27/2001	

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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO &amp; 1449B/PTO

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**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
	PCT/US02/39151 International Search Report

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.